

July 13, 2017

The July 13, 2017 meeting of the Mansfield Township Environmental Commission was called to order at 7:45 p.m. by Chair Dawn Smith, held in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act of 1976, followed by a pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Present: Dawn Smith, Robert Jewell, Paul Tarlowe, Ruth Pante

Excused: Glenn Todd

Guest: Connie Andershonis

Minutes

It was MOVED by Mr. Jewell to approve the minutes of the April 13, 2017 meeting, seconded by Ms. Smith. All in favor with one abstention.

It was MOVED by Ms. Smith to approve the minutes of the May 11, 2017 meeting, seconded by Mr. Tarlowe, all in favor.

Committee Reports

- Photo Contest: Display boards with the photos have been set up at Donaldson's Farm; the display will be moved to the Country Café next, followed by Willy's Hot Dogs and then Lavender Farm. The three top winners were 12-year-old Kaylee Dyer for her nature submission "February Bird Chickadee"; Jeff Diebel for an architecture submission, "Canal Trail, Port Murray"; and Alex Kocher for a landscape submission, "Point Mountain". Honorable mention recipient was Patti Soldavini's entry "Frittilari Butterfly". Julius Birchen scored second in the nature category but was actually higher than Alex Kocher in points. Recipients were honored at the May 24 Township Committee meeting.
- The final report for the ANJEC grant covering the photo contest has been prepared by Ms. Smith. Of the \$500 awarded, we spent \$498. Cards to participants and judges were paid for with grant money.
- ERI plans include a need for a Scope of Work and further proposals; discussion followed. The \$7,000 designated by the Township Committee for this project must be spent by the end of the year. PDFs are in Drew DeSessa's office. Paul Mazur is to be contacted for a quote on revision of maps. Barry Isett in Phillipsburg, Professional Environmental Associates in Rockaway, and Studer McEldowney are potential environmental consultants. Whether the Master Plan will be revised is unknown at this time. Ms. Andershonis will forward PDFs and Ms. Smith will review and make notes. Ms. Smith offered to call Isett, and Mr. Jewell will call Mazur. Ms. Smith will prepare an outline to include a cultural resources map.
- At the Cafferata Park, two bird houses are down.
- Ms. Fascenelli has the P.O. for the sign at Cafferata Park. Tim Terry has submitted a proposed sign; \$305 was estimated. Mr. Terry also wants to donate a simple bench which is partly built at this time. Alice Mayberry has two benches she wants to donate,

she will send a letter with this offer to the Township Committee and a request for town employees to pick up and place at the park.

- RTP trail grant: This matter is totally stalled, we are at risk of losing the \$24,000 grant. Mansfield was the only town to get the full \$24,000. The cost of paving has been estimated at \$44,000. This work was started April 1; the plan is for a multi-use surface to invite more people to use the loop, and linking it to the municipal building would mean greater use. Ms. Andershonis and Mr. Proefrock have walked the trail. There is a need to find a plan to handle repairs, then determine how much excavating is needed; quotes are needed. A request for a change of the grant terms can be made. Because recreation and sports are the prime focus, this project rests with Michael Misertino who should be leading the supervision of the grant. The Township Committee and the DPW should take charge of the work progress.

Mr. Jewell said the Land Use Board has nothing to report at this time.

It was MOVED by Mr. Tarlowe to adjourn at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth A. Pante

Next meeting date:

August 10, 2017